



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 10**

1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900
Seattle, WA 98101-3140

OFFICE OF
ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANUP

12 April 2012

Reply to
Attention of: 1910 Northwest Boulevard, Suite 208
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814

Wade E. Sims, District Ranger
St. Joe Ranger District
Idaho Panhandle National Forests
222 South 7th Street, Suite 1
St. Maries, ID 83861

RE: Avery Landing Non-Time-Critical Removal Action
Removal of Excess Mineral Material from National Forest System Land

Dear Mr. Sims:

The purpose of this letter is to request approval for the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to remove and obtain excess mineral material from National Forest System (NSF) land. The material would include unconsolidated rock and soil slope and slide materials removed from roadways during maintenance activities on NFS land. Approval of this request would be in support of the Avery Landing (Site) Non-Time-Critical Removal Action (NTCRA).

Background

EPA is preparing for implementation of the NTCRA at the Site located approximately three quarters of a mile to the west of the town of Avery in Shoshone County, Idaho (refer to enclosed Figure 1-2 Site Vicinity Map). The NTCRA is being conducted in accordance with Federal law, including the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 9601-9675, Solid Waste Disposal Act, also known as the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, 42 U.S.C §§ 6091-6992k, and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, also known as the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. §§ 1251-1387.

Investigations by EPA, the State of Idaho, and others have shown there to be oil and hazardous substances in subsurface soil, groundwater, sediment, and surface water at the Site. An Action Memorandum setting forth the NTCRA was issued by EPA on 5 July 2011 for the Site. The goals of the NTCRA include reducing these sources of contamination and protecting against further impacts to public health and welfare and the environment.

Need for Excess Mineral Material

Contaminated material will be excavated from the Site and transported off-Site for disposal on non-NFS land. EPA requests approval to remove $\pm 30,000$ cubic yards (yd^3) of excess mineral material from NFS lands to be used by EPA as excavation backfill material at the Site. The removal of the excess mineral material will be performed by EPA's Emergency Response and Removal (ERRS) contractor Environmental Quality Management (EQM). The ERRS contract is a regionally-based, multi-year contract to provide EPA with personnel, equipment, and materials, and the work will be performed pursuant to EPA Contract No. EP-R7-07-02 and Task Order No. 0043. The NTCRA scope of work is described in the enclosed Attachment B (Project Approach) to the EQM Work Plan (see Site Restoration, Item No.2). The removal of material will occur with oversight provided by an EPA On-Scene Coordinator (OSC).

The removal of the excess mineral material would occur from one or more of the locations identified previously by the USFS, including the Eagle Creek, Fishhook, and Prospector locations (Ppersonal communication: Wade Sims, USFS to Earl Liverman, EPA, subject: EPA Avery Landing Removal Action; dated 03/05/12). The currently estimated amount of material to be removed from each location is Eagle Creek 19,200 yd^3 , Fishhook 10,300 yd^3 , and Prospector 10,900 yd^3 . These locations are identified in the enclosed figures which were provided by USFS in the above-referenced email. Three locations are listed because EPA has not yet inspected each location to determine its suitability as a source for clean structural backfill material. Additionally, EPA is coordinating with Shoshone County for possible use of a fourth nearby location which may also be used as a material source (refer to enclosed letter from John Thomas, Shoshone County to Earl Liverman, subject: Additional Pit Source/EPA Avery Landing Removal Action; dated 03/06/12). EPA anticipates knowing the more precise location(s) of the excess mineral material by mid-April to mid-May 2012.

Conventional construction equipment will be used to remove the excess mineral material. EPA will ensure that the equipment, likely including an excavator, 10-yard dump trucks, and a front-end loader, will be clean to ensure that no Site-related contaminants are transported off-Site onto NFS land. Appropriate traffic signs will be posted in proximity of the locations where material is removed from to provide advance warning of removal activities. Best management practices following guidelines outlined in the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality "Catalog of Stormwater Best Management Practices for Idaho Cities and Counties" will be implemented to control for potential short-term cleanup-related impacts such as erosion and sediment control. Any location used as a material source will be graded following the removal work to facilitate surface water run-on and run-off and erosion and sediment control structures will be constructed, as appropriate. Additionally, any topsoil imported from off-Site will be obtained from non-NFS land and will be certified weed free.

Project Schedule and Coordination

The NTCRA will begin mid- to late May 2012, and is anticipated to last through late Fall 2012. EPA's need for material will likely begin mid- to late June 2012 and will last through late July or early August 2012.

EPA will coordinate with USFS and if appropriate, Shoshone County to ensure adequate public notice is provided regarding the removal of excess mineral materials from the affected roadways. EPA will provide notice 48 hours in advance of the removal of excess mineral material.

Thank you for your continued cooperation in this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions you have at 208.664.4858.

Sincerely,

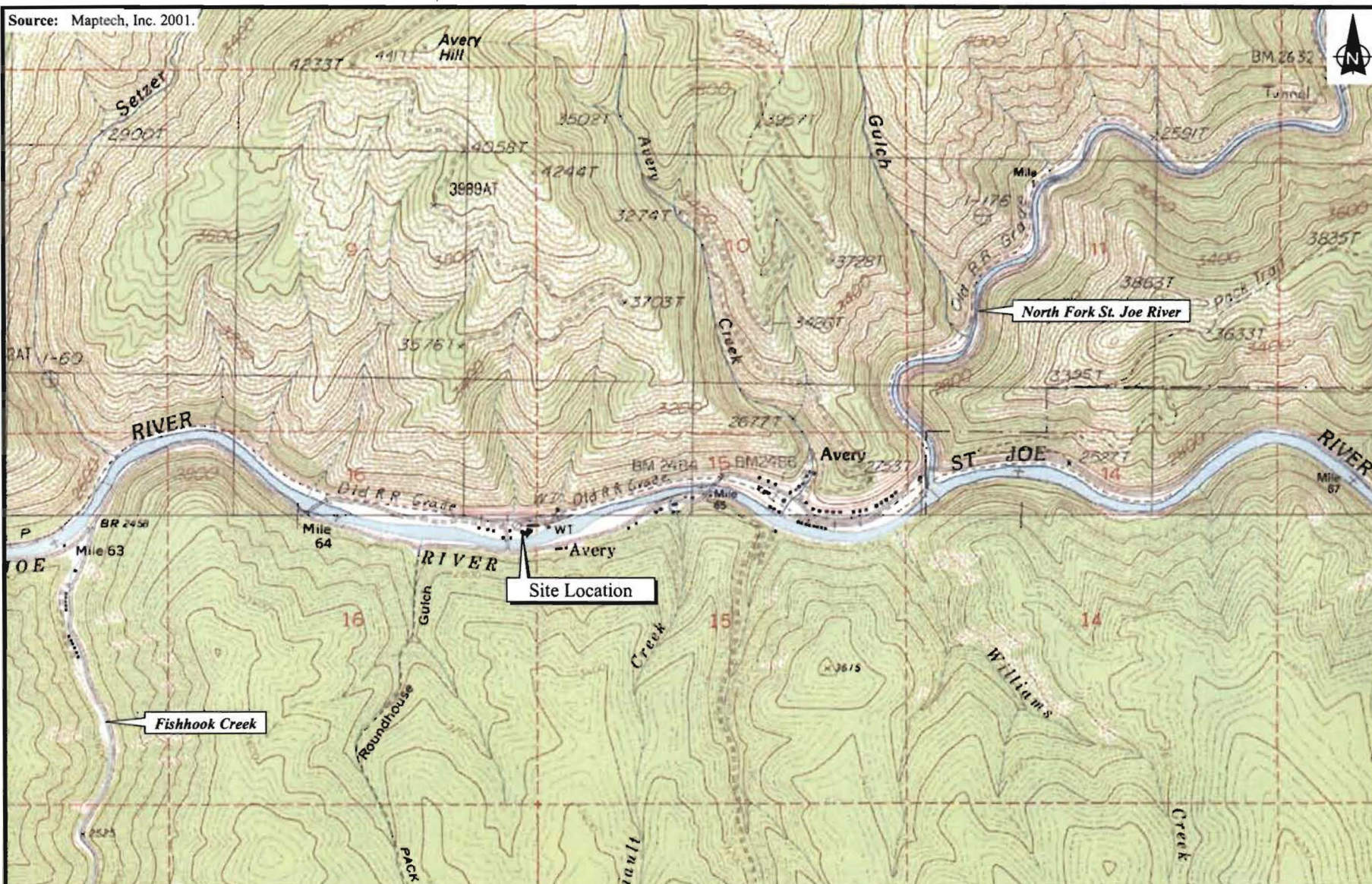
A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Earl Liverman". The signature is stylized with a large "E" and "L".

Earl Liverman
Federal On-Scene Coordinator

Cc: Richard Mednick, EPA
Laurie Kelso, USFS
John Thomas, Shoshone County

FIGURE 1-2
AVERY LANDING SITE VICINITY MAP

Source: Maptech, Inc. 2001.



ecology and environment, inc.
International Specialists in the Environment
Seattle, Washington

AVERY LANDING SITE Avery, Idaho

0 1000 2000
Approximate Scale in Feet

Figure 1-2
SITE VICINITY MAP

Date:
2/22/08

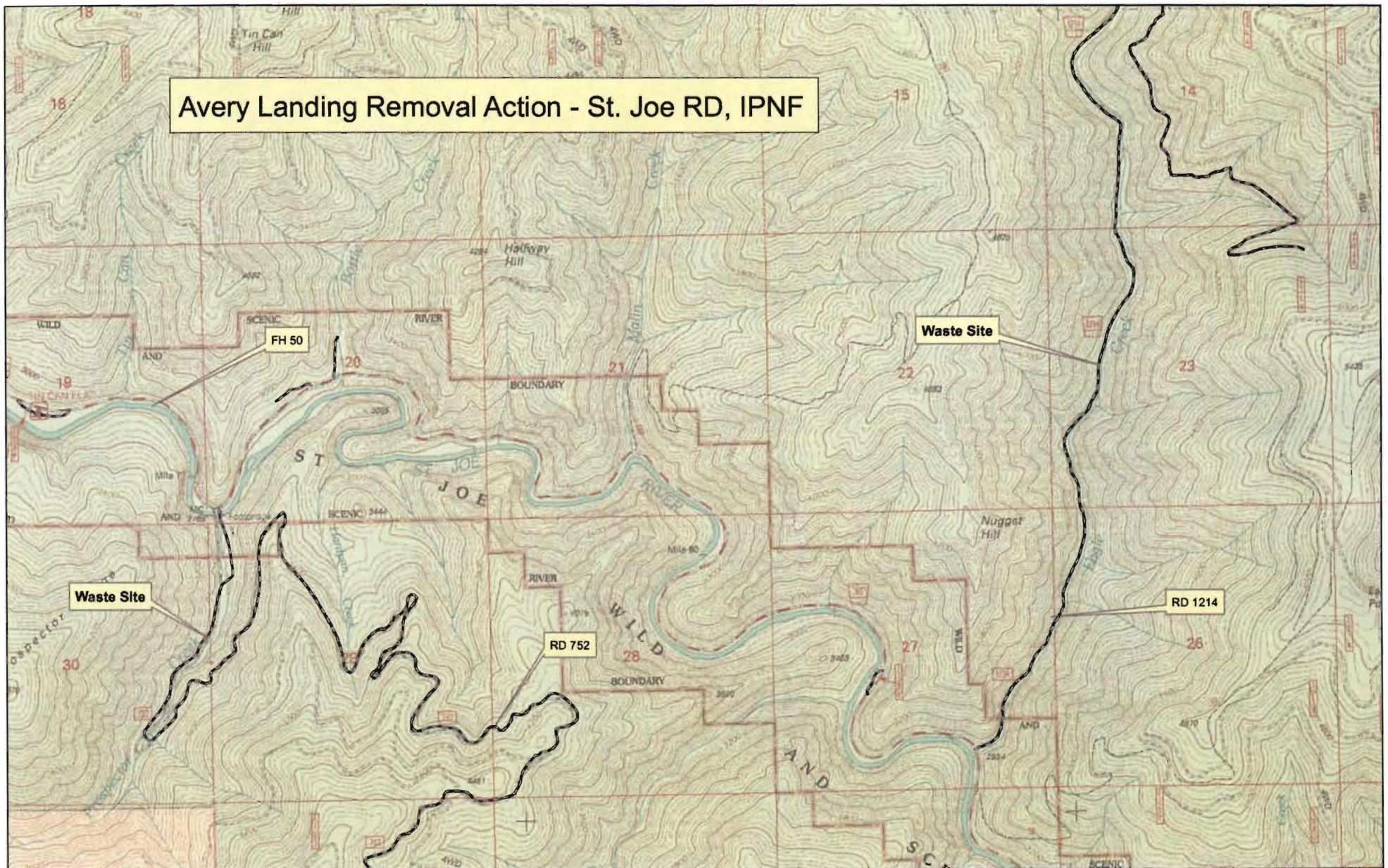
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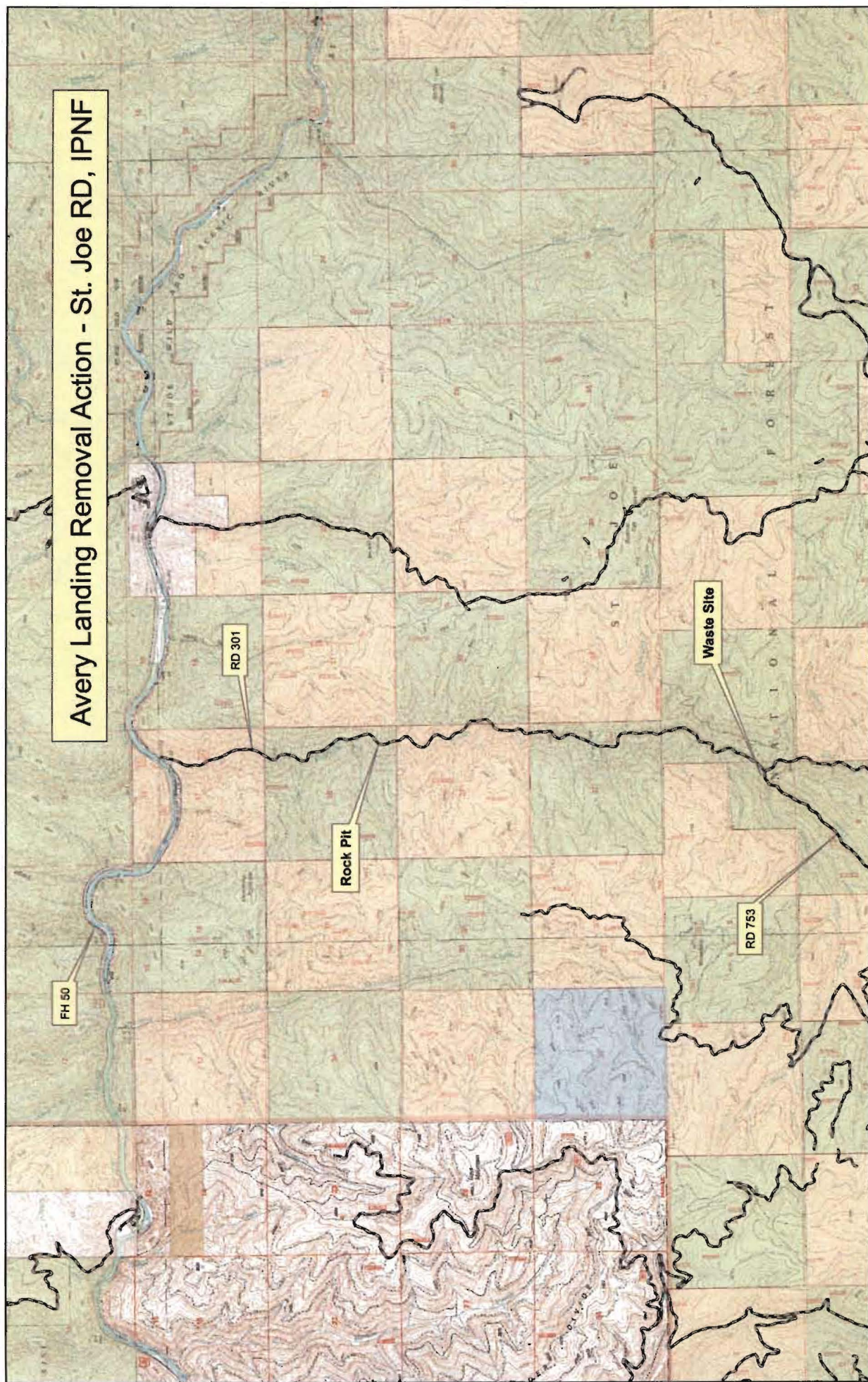
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ATTACHMENT B
EQM WORK PLAN FOR THE AVERY LANDING SITE

USFS
POTENTIAL EXCESS MINERAL MATERIAL SITES

Avery Landing Removal Action - St. Joe RD, IPNF





**SHOSHONE COUNTY
ADDITIONAL PIT SOURCE/EPA AVERY LANDING REMOVAL ACTION**



Shoshone County Public Works

700 Bank Street, Suite 35, Wallace, ID 83873
Phone: 208-753-5475 * Fax: 208-753-1011

John Thomas
Director

Terry Silveus
Administrative Secretary /
Database Administrator

Julie Dire
Purchasing Agent /
Secretary

Murray: 682-3957
Smeterville: 786-9471
Osburn: 752-8335
Marble Creek: 245-6721

March 6, 2012

Earl Liverman
USEPA Coeur d' Alene Field Office
1910 Northwest Boulevard, Suite 208
Coeur d' Alene, Idaho 83814

ADDITIONAL PIT SOURCE / EPA AVERY LANDING REMOVAL ACTION

Earl,

I had the opportunity to speak with John Arnold, Shoshone County Road District Supervisor for the Avery area regarding additional rock pit sources. Mr. Arnold suggested a site on Moon Pass. Shoshone County Roads has a stock piled excess slide material at this site, Road (County ownership) FR - 456 approximately 1.5 miles northeast of Avery, for some time (see attached map).

I am sure you have thought of possibly using multiple sources for materials in smaller quantities from each site. The environmental visual impact to one site would be lessened substantially. Possibly sourcing common material in the range of 10,000 CY per site might be an option to explore.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John Thomas".

John Thomas
Public Works Director
Shoshone County

